

TWO NEW SPECIES OF LYCOSA FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

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PLATE V.

Up to the present seventy species of *Lycosa* have been described as Australian. This is probably only a fraction of the whole of this immense genus existing on our continent. Owing to the great powers of locomotion of the young *Lycosa* it is not safe to view every Australian species as endemic without further investigation. Some eremeian species also show variations in colour of almost specific value; but connecting variations can be found which even invalidate their varietal value. The two species described are certainly new, and the types are preserved in formalin in the collection of the South Australian Museum.

I have found that the species of *Lycosa* described by H. R. Hogg (P.Z.S. Lond., 1905, vol. ii., p. 569), and preserved in the South Australian Museum collection, are, from long immersion in alcohol, in poor condition for identification.

LYCOSA SKEETI, n. sp.

♀. Cephalo-thorax light brown, clothed with silvery-grey hair; a darker brown median streak with four similar streaks on each side.

Mandibles concolorous, clothed with long silvery hair. Lip maxillae and sternum dark brown.

Abdomen light brown above, dark brownish-black below, spinnerets of the same colour, lighter in shade.

Legs and palpi the same colour as the thorax. They are clothed with fine silvery hairs interspersed with strong black spines.

The eye area is prominent, and the arrangement of the eyes, which are black and shining, is of the ordinary *Lycosa* type. In the eye area and on the clypeus are strong, erect, yellowish-brown hairs.

The markings of the dorsum of the abdomen are as follow:—Posteriorly, two nearly straight black parallel lines meeting at their ends; anteriorly to this, three parallel sinuate lines; in front, two lateral black, forked lines, not meeting medially.

Epigyne small, shining brown of simple form, *viz.*, two depressions with a median ridge.

Total length, 65 mm.; thorax abd., 25 mm.

This striking species of *Lycosa* was sent from Wilson, Flinders Range.

Type in South Australian Museum. Male unknown.

Named after Mr. H. C. Skeet, of Melbourne, an enthusiastic collector for other naturalists.

LYCOSA PERINFLATA, n. sp.

Cephalo-thorax broad, compressed, nearly circular in outline; warm reddish-brown, covered with fine white adpressed hairs.

Median brown lines extending on to eye area in front, uniting behind and then spreading into a broad fork with radiating brown lines and spots on either side, running into a brown splashed area on the margins of the thorax.

Maxillae dark shining brown with thick tomentum of fine white hairs interspersed with darker brown ones.

Lip and maxillae reddish-brown, sternum and coxae darker with fine clothing of black hairs.

Abdomen above, dirty white with four discrete broad greyish-black bands interspersed with small spots and a similar densely-spotted area at sides of abdomen.

Below, yellowish-white with a broad central black band narrowing towards spinnerets, which are likewise black.

The whole abdomen is clothed with a fine white tomentum.

The eye area, of usual shape, appears white from the thickness of the tomentum.

Legs dark brown, under-surface of tibiae densely clothed with white hairs, showing marked contrast with the remaining joints.

Total length, 73 mm.; thorax abd., 27 mm.

This robust *Lycosa* was found at Whyte-Yarcowie, South Australia.

Type in South Australian Museum. Male unknown.

DESCRIPTION OF PLATE V.

Lycosa skeeti, n. sp.

Nat. size.

Lycosa perinflata, n. sp.

Nat. size.